

DE BEERS

TALISMAN COLLECTION



De Beers celebrated its 10th anniversary this year with the Talisman collection. This new line of modern jewelry is a sumptuous palette of brilliant colors, made from both rough and polished stones. Imbued with contrasting textures and organic feeling, the Talisman collection hinges on symbolism and harks back to the time when jewels played the role of protectors. As the rough-hewn multi-colored diamonds mingle with soft-polished ones, a kaleidoscopic pattern emerges to unite design and artistry.

This is the first time that De Beers has chartered into the high-jewelry territory with a stunning array of artistic pieces, including a gorgeous necklace accentuated with an exceptional, rough-diamond weighing 13.79cts. Handpicked round brilliant, baguette and rose-cuts diamonds along with rough versions reflect their natural beauty and varying luster, as they lie embedded in white and yellow gold.

But what sparked the high-jewelry collection? “My vision was to capture the power of Talisman, whilst bringing a new softness and femininity that would elevate this icon into high-jewelry. The medallion is still present, bringing graphic power and a bold beauty, but it is combined with delicate and supple diamond lines. We sourced some of the rarest and most beautiful rough diamonds we could find, and these designs showcase them in a new inspiring way. It was important to enrich the Talisman story and bring new innovations. Diamonds are set with a new setting unseen before, and allow the rough diamonds and fancy cuts to float over the skin. All together, the new high-jewelry express rough and polished diamonds in all of their power and grace,” says Hollie Bonnevillie Barden, Head of Design, De Beers.

The highlight of the Talisman collection is, of course, the high-jewelry pieces. However, the Wondrous Sphere is yet another poignant reminder of how a brand can creatively play with diamonds to design a work of art. Featuring a central rough diamond (13.17cts), articulated by rare diamonds in a three-dimensional sequence, the Wondrous Sphere is a nod to the fusion of light and color, distilling mystical inspiration and the quest for discovery.

The shapes, colors, texture and lustre of light are all very individual and that’s what makes rough diamonds so precious and appealing to work with, explains Hollie Bonnevillie Barden. “These natural qualities certainly guided my inspiration and the designs. However, this also comes with a new set of challenges when designing with rough diamonds. You really don’t know what beauties nature is going to reveal and so I had to design directly with the rough diamond in mind, allowing the character and form direct the designs. In that way, it is harder to work with rough diamonds. However, in some ways it is more natural and intuitive as Talisman is about creating harmony and balance with nature’s raw palettes,” she adds.

Taking cues from her vision, De Beers crafted four new poetic gold-hued medals, evoking the power of the talisman. The medals capture the colors in nature to enhance the tones of diamonds, which encircle a larger non-faceted stone; while the graphic rings and transformable earrings, in the Talisman series, take on an emotional note enriched with hopes and fantasies. | Courtesy of De Beers Diamond Jewellers | By Smitha Sadanandan